GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3119
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2004
RELAXATION IN ACQUISITION SPECIFICATION
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether various States including Orissa have requested the Union Government for relaxation in Food Acquisition Quality (FAQ) for procurement of rice/paddy from farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government is unable to accept the request of all these States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Government of Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana have requested for relaxation in uniform specifications of paddy/rice for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2004-2005 due to erratic rain fall and inclement weather, affecting the quality of paddy. After detailed examination of the requests of State Governments and considering the extent of the problem and to avoid distress sale of Paddy, relaxations in uniform specifications of paddy for KMS 2004-2005 have been allowed with value cut to the following States by the Government of India;

Tamil Nadu

(1) Moisture Content upto 20% against the existing limit of 17%.

Orissa

(1) Damaged/discoloured/sprouted/weevilled grains upto 5 % against the existing limit of 3%.

(2) Immature/shriveled/shrunken grains upto 5% against the existing limit of 3%

Madhya Pradesh

(1) Organic Foreign Matter upto 2% against the existing limit of 1%.

(2) Damaged/discoloured/sprouted/weevilled grains upto 7% against the existing limit of 3% subject to Damaged grains not exceeding 4%.

(3) Immature/shriveled/shrunken grains upto 7% against the existing limit of 3%.

However, the sum of the above three refractions should not exceed 12% against the existing limit of 7%. Further, the out turn ratio of rice obtained from paddy procured under relaxed specifications has been reduced by 2% for raw and parboiled rice. The out-turn ratio

in case of raw rice would be 65% and for parboiled rice 66% instead of existing 67% and 68% respectively for KMS 2004-05.